



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

County Counsel
Director of Health Services
Interim Agricultural Commissioner/Director
of Weights and Measures

At its meeting held August 24, 2004, the Board took the following action:

32-B

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“One of the most important methods of fighting the West Nile Virus is through mosquito abatement. Mosquito abatement is conducted in the County by a number of Mosquito and Vector Control Districts. The focus of the districts is to reduce and control the number of vectors, that are able to spread and amplify diseases such as the West Nile Virus.

“The districts are presently attempting to identify and clean up all sources of standing water, where mosquitoes may breed. Many of these sources are on private property, which makes it difficult for the districts to find and remove the breeding source. The districts, once they learn of a source, can contact the property owner, request compliance and cite the owner if compliance is not achieved. Ultimately, they can also obtain an administrative warrant to enter the property, if necessary. This process can take substantial time and effort to accomplish.

“The City of Los Angeles is working on an ordinance which would help facilitate the removal of mosquito breeding grounds.

“Even though we are well into the months of greatest mosquito activity in this year’s West Nile Virus spread, we know that the virus will be a problem for several years to come and, thus, any procedural improvements we make now will be very beneficial for the next several years.”

(Continued on Page 2)

32-B (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried (Supervisor Antonovich being absent), the Director of Health Services and the Interim Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures were instructed to work with County Counsel to draft an ordinance for introduction at the Board meeting of September 14, 2004, with changes to the County Code to facilitate the removal of mosquito breeding grounds and to coordinate with the City of Los Angeles, so that procedures adopted are as consistent as possible across jurisdictions.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor

Chief Administrative Officer